

5 **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR COMMUNICATING INFORMATION TO
PORTABLE COMPUTING DEVICES**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 An information distributor comprises a processor, a network receiver connected to
the processor, a transceiver system connected to the processor, and a memory connected
to the processor. The memory includes network receiver communication stacks
configured to direct the network receiver to wirelessly receive information from a system
communication network and transceiver protocol stacks configured to direct the
transceiver system to wirelessly transmit the information on demand to a portable
computing device located within transmission range of the transceiver system. The
transceiver protocol stacks include a first module configured to direct the transceiver
system to generate a beacon, a second module configured to direct the transceiver system
to detect an acknowledgement signal generated, in response to the beacon, by the
portable computing device, and a third module configured to direct the transceiver system
to generate, in response to the acknowledgement signal, a broadcast incorporating the
information.